

**CONTINUING EDUCATION GUIDELINES – EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA**  
**Commission on Ministry - August 2010**

**based on the Title III MINISTRY CANONS**  
**Of the Life and Work of Priests and Deacons**

**The Bishop and Commission shall require and provide for the continuing education of Priests and Deacons and keep a record of such education.**

**Title III Ministry Canons related to continuing education will be implemented in the Diocese of Iowa as follows:**

**Requirement**

All members of the clergy and commissioned members of ministry development teams shall pursue continuing education. The first report for activities occurring in 2011 must be sent to the Bishop during the first set of Ember Days occurring in 2012 (during the week following Lent I). Reports will be filed at this time each year. The report will include a description of continuing education and/or ministry development activities during the preceding year, and an evaluation of personal growth during the reporting period.

Congregations will have the responsibility of paying for the cost of continuing education. This fact should be included in Priests' and Deacons' contracts and/or letters of agreement. Congregations should pay continuing education expenses for non-stipendiary Priests, Deacons and commissioned MDT members.

**Content**

Clergy will make decisions on continuing education based on self-assessment, Vestry input and advice from the Bishop. Continuing education activities shall be distributed over time among three broad competency areas. It is not necessary to include activities related to all three areas each year:

- Theological/Biblical/Academic
- Professional/Pastoral Leadership
- Spiritual/Personal Development

Examples of appropriate continuing education activities include, but are not limited to:

- Theological studies
- Clergy reading groups
- Curriculum development (e.g., a Lenten Study)
- Education for Ministry training for trainers
- Hospice training
- Grief training
- Interpersonal skill development
- Multicultural training
- Conflict management
- Interfaith education
- Volunteer management

NOTE – *You are welcome to use this form – or a separate attached sheet – as is most helpful to you.*

Clergy are asked to reflect on, encapsulate learnings and write to the Bishop about their efforts at formation for ministry in the past year, and articulate expectations about where they want to grow in the next year. Report due to Bishop Scarfe by **March 15, 2012**.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Continuing Education/Formation Activities for 2011

Title of Program or Activity Attended	Date of Activity/Program	Brief Description	Length of Activity	Discuss how this program/activity is influencing your ministry or spiritual life.
i)				
ii)				
iii)				
iv)				

Please use additional pages as needed. Thank you for your reflection and responses here and for your leadership and commitment to ongoing continuing education. Return report to: Office of the Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, 225 – 37th Street, Des Moines IA 50312-4305